GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2003
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2016
Water Treatment
Sahu Shri Lakhan Lal

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to utilise renewable energy like solar and wind energy for water treatment;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) the details of the Water Quality Testing Laboratories (WQTLs) in the country and the number of operational WQTLs out of them, State/UT-wise including Chhattisgarh;
(d) whether the Government has taken steps to ensure the maintenance of water treatment arrangements; and
(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI)

(a) & (b) In the year 2012-13 and 2013-14, with the help of National Clean Energy Fund (NCEF) from the Ministry of Finance and National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), 9,623 solar based dual pumps have been installed by States in Left Wing Extremist/ naxal affected States so that safe drinking water is made available to small rural tribal habitations through taps. With the scheme getting very popular and liked by the remote rural population, another 5,004 solar based dual pumps have been installed in the year 2015-16 with funding from NRDWP and subsidy for solar panels from Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). As power to sanction water supply projects including water treatment has already been delegated to the States, they may also take up natural energy (solar/wind) based water purification systems, if they desire so.
(c) As reported by the States in the online Integrated Management Information System of the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, there exist 2,230 water quality testing laboratories at the State, District, Sub-Divisional, Block levels and also certain mobile water testing laboratories. State/UT-wise details of water quality testing laboratories including Chhattisgarh State is at Annexure.
(d) & (e) Rural water supply is a State subject. It is the responsibility of the States not only commission water supply projects but also maintain them properly with the help of Panchayati Raj Institutions. The Government of India assists the States technically and financially in providing safe drinking water through the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). Under NRDWP, upto 15% of funds provided to the States could be utilized towards Operation & Maintenance of water supply assets including Water treatment plants.

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